



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
**Department of Public Works**  
123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3800  
[www.kirklandwa.gov](http://www.kirklandwa.gov)

---

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Transportation Commission

**From:** David Godfrey, P.E. Transportation Engineering Manager

**Date:** September 21, 2012

**Subject:** NE 132nd Street/I-405 Interchange

### **Background:**

At their September 4, meeting, the City Council asked the Transportation Commission to prepare a policy statement to help support the construction of the NE 132nd Street/I-405 interchange. The Statement would allow the Council to have a clear articulation of the need for the project and action that should be taken to bring it to completion. A draft statement is on page 3 of this memo.

Improving access to and through the Totem Lake area has been an objective of the City of Kirkland for some time and has been identified by a number of groups that have studied the Totem Lake area as a major need in order to spur development and ease existing congestion. A new interchange on I-405 at NE 132nd Street would improve access to the Totem Lake Urban Center by connecting Totem Lake to and from points to the north. Plans for the new interchange are currently at about 5% completion. WSDOT estimates the total construction cost to be on the order of \$90 million. The project was previously fully funded for construction in 2013, but is now is only partially funded by WSDOT with design beginning in 2025.

The interchange project is in the Kirkland's Totem Lake Neighborhood plan and the project is included in the I-405 Master Plan. The City of Kirkland has prepared a NE 132nd Street study that shows a set of projects that would complement the new interchange. One of those projects, at 100th Avenue NE, is funded for design and the other projects will be completed in the future. WSDOT is also interested in the NE 132nd Street project because of the congestion relief it will provide at the NE 160th and NE 124th interchanges.

A programmatic environmental review has been completed as part of the I-405 master plan and project level environmental work would have to be completed. Additional right-of-way will be needed to complete the project.

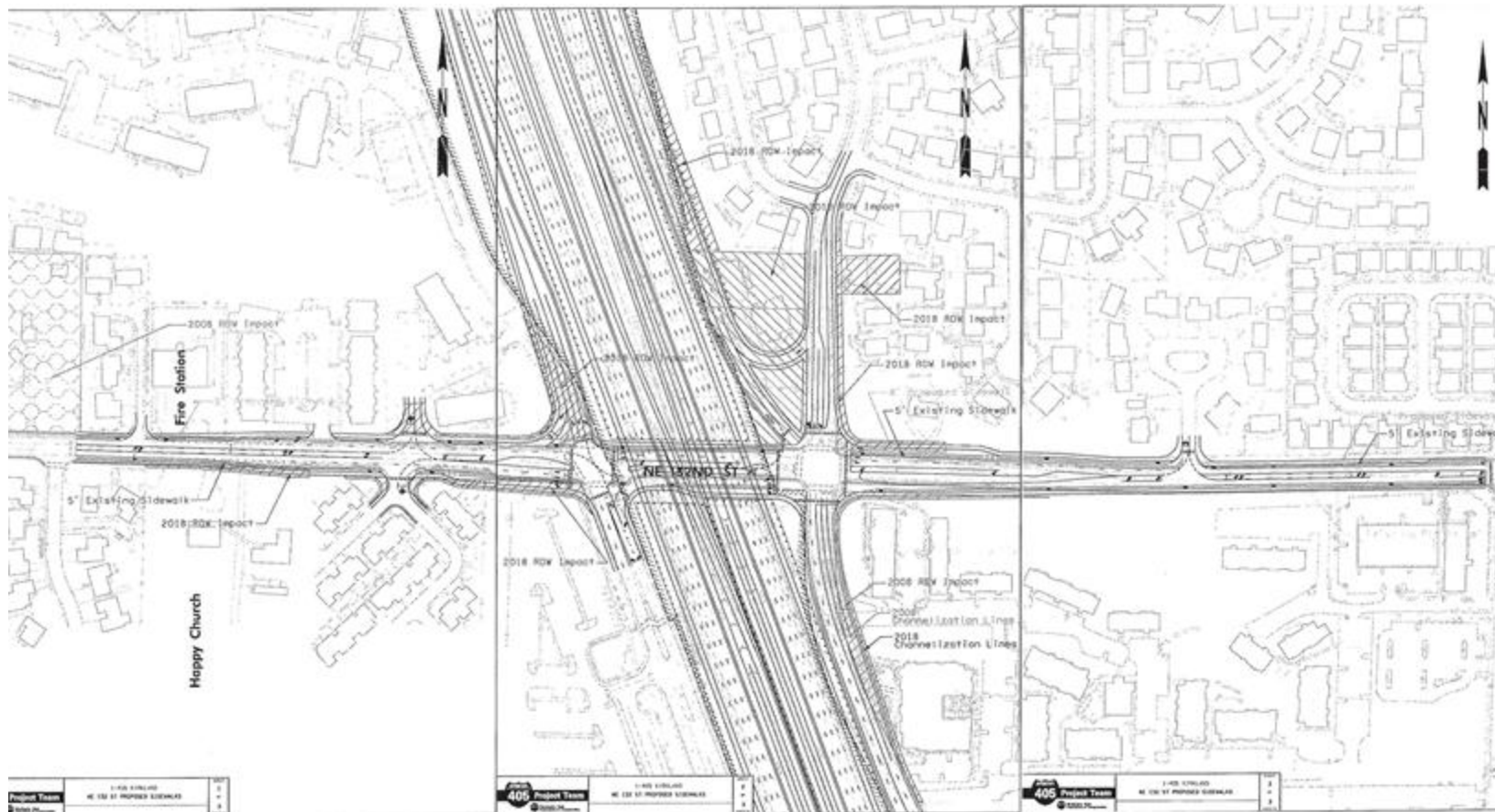


Figure 1 Concept for the NE 132nd Interchange

Draft Statement from the Transportation Commission

1. increased access to and through would benefit the Totem Lake Urban center. Currently large blocks and roadways that geographically divide the neighborhood hamper development of a dense urban style environment. Adding an additional interchange to I-405 at NE 132nd would result in an important expansion of access and make it easier to achieve the land use vision described in the Neighborhood Plan.

Access from the north to the Evergreen Hospital/Totem Lake Mall is circuitous requiring vehicles to travel through some of the most congested intersections in Kirkland. A new connection between the Hospital area and points north on I-405 would make travel more straightforward.

2. NE 132nd interchange fits with existing plans  
Both the Totem Lake Neighborhood Plan and the I-405 Master Plan show the NE 132nd Street interchange. It is recognized as a key part of the regional and local transportation system

3. Economic development  
Improving visibility, opening access and achieving a transportation network that supports the desired land use vision will directly improve the environment for economic development.

4. Understand the project  
Further refinement of the project is necessary to better understand right-of-way needs, environmental considerations and overall project cost. It may be expedient to use local funds to further develop the project in order to better make a case for outside funding.

5. Seek multiple funding sources  
Because of the magnitude of the project cost, it is likely that funding will be needed from multiple sources. Therefore, funding the project should be part of the City's legislative agenda and the project should be considered for grant funding opportunities. Grant applications may require partnering with WSDOT.